

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 AID-05 IGA-02 EB-08
AGRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
NEA-10 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /108 W
-----099321 120246Z /73

R 110816Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY BISSAU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0497
INFO AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY LISBON
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY DAKAR

C O N F I D E N T I A L BISSAU 0455

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAID, PDEV, PU, US
SUBJECT: MEETING WITH PRESIDENT CABRAL

SUMMARY: PRESIDENT CABRAL CONVOKED CHARGE AUGUST 10 TO EXPRESS GRATITUDE FOR U.S. FOOD ASSISTANCE AND TO EXPRESS HIS SATISFACTION WITH LEVEL, NATURE AND PROMPTNESS OF U.S. AID PROGRAM. DURING COURSE OF CONVERSATION, PRESIDENT ALSO TOUCHED ON RESULTS HIS LATEST TRIP TO MIDDLE EAST AND COMMENTED ON U.S. POLICY IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. END SUMMARY.

1. PRESIDENT CABRAL BEGAN CONVERSATION IN HIS TYPICAL RELAXED AND INFORMAL MANNER BY EXPRESSING HIS GRATITUDE FOR U.S. DONATION OF 2,000 TONS OF CORN AND 2,500 TONS OF RICE WHICH SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE BISSAU NEXT MONTH. PRESIDENT NOTED WITH PLEASURE RAPIDITY OF JULY 15 U.S. RESPONSE TO GOGB REQUEST OF MAY 16. PRESIDENT AVOIDED MENTION OF OUTSTANDING DIFFERENCE IN HIS AND EMBASSY POINTS OF VIEW ON CERTAIN DETAILS OF TRANSFER AUTHORIZATION NOW BEING NEGOTIATED BETWEEN EMBASSY AND COMMISSARIAT OF AGRICULTURE WHICH
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RECEIVES ITS INSTRUCTIONS DIRECTLY FROM THE PRESIDENT. CABRAL NOTED STRONG PUSH GOGB IS MAKING ON ATTAINING RICE SELF-SUFFICIENCY AND HIS HOPE THAT AFTER NEXT YEAR NO FURTHER FOOD AID WOULD BE NEEDED BY GUINEA-BISSAU.

2. AT CHARGE'S SUGGESTION, WE REVIEWED OUR TOTAL AID EFFORT THIS YEAR WHICH, WITH FOOD AID AND PROJECTED AID

FOR FY77, AMOUNTS TO ABOUT DOLS 4 MILLION. PRESIDENT SAID HE AND HIS GOVERNMENT PLEASED AT U.S. WILLINGNESS TO AID GUINEA-BISSAU SO GENEROUSLY AND SO PROMPTLY. HE NOTED U.S. DESIRE TO COOPERATE IN AGRICULTURE WHICH HE FELT WAS MOST IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENT SECTOR. AFTER ALL, HE SAID, PEASANTS HAD CONTRIBUTED MOST TO AND SUFFERED MOST FROM WAR AND IT IS FOR THEM, THEREFORE, TO REAP THE FRUITS OF VICTORY. PRESIDENT SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED APPROPRIATENESS OF CONTUBEL RICE IRRIGATION SCHEME AND WAS PLEASED TO LEARN AIP SCHEME FOR DOLS 275,000 EXTENSION OF THE PILOT PROJECT HAD BEEN APPROVED. FYI: PRESIDENT HAS MADE MUCH OF SUCCESS OF UNDP/SELF-HELP SMALL RICE PROJECT AT CONTUBEL REFERRING TO IT IN SPEECHES AND DISCUSSING ITS RESULTS WITH PEASANTS DURING TRIPS TO INTERIOR. END FYI.

3. IN CONTEXT OF DISCUSSION OF AID, PRESIDENT LAUNCHED INTO WELL KNOWN PARTY LINE ABOUT BY-GONES, OPENNESS TO ALL AND ABSOLUTE INDEPENDENCE. ON LAST POINT, CHARGE POINTED OUT U.S. AID CAME WITH NO STRINGS ATTACHED BUT THAT IT SHOULD BE SEEN IN THE CONTEXT OF U.S. POLICY OF RESPECT FOR TRUE NON-ALIGNMENT. PRESIDENT ASSURED CHARGE GUINEA-BISSAU WAS TRULY NON-ALIGNED STATE NOT ABOUT TO MORTGAGE ITS INDEPENDENCE TO ANYONE NO MATTER HOW FRIENDLY THEY WERE OR HAD BEEN.

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4. IN RESPONSE TO QUERY ABOUT HIS RECENT TRIP TO SAUDIA ARABIA, QATAR AND KUWAIT, PRESIDENT EXPRESSED SATISFACTION AT LEVEL OF ARAB ASSISTANCE TO GUINEA-BISSAU AND SAID THAT KUWAIT HAD PREVAILED UPON OPEC FUND TO FINANCE CUMERE GROUNDNUT OIL PROCESSING SCHEME WHICH GOGB HAD BEEN REQUESTING CHASE MANHATTAN BANK TO FINANCE. BOTH PRESIDENT AND SUBSEQUENTLY BNG GOVERNOR MONTEIRO IMPLIED THAT CHJSE WAS STILL WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE IN FUNDING STRUCTURE BUT THAT ARABS WOULD BE LEADERS OF ANY CONSORTIUM.

5. CABRAL WAS FAIRLY CURRENT WITH CARTER ADMINISTRATION PUBLIC INITIATIVES ON SOUTHERN AFRICAN QUESTIONS AND EXPRESSED STRONG SUPPORT FOR THE QUOTE COURAGEOUS CHANGE IN POLICY UNQUOTE. WITHOUT GOING INTO USUAL PAIGC LINE ABOUT ULTIMATE NECESSITY OF ARMED STRUGGLE, PRESIDENT EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR U.S. INITIATIVES TOWARD PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF RHODESIAN PROBLEM.

6. PRESIDENT STATED HE NOT RPT NOT PLANNING TO ATTEND THIS YEAR'S GENERAL ASSEMBLY AS CAPE VERDE PRESIDENT WOULD BE THERE AND WOULD BE ABLE TO REPRESENT GUINEA-

BISSAU QUOTE A LITTLE UNQUOTE AS WELL. HE THOUGHT HE
WOULD LIKE TO GO NEXT YEAR.

7. ACTION REQUESTED: REQUEST AF/W INFORM CHASE
MANHATTAN BANK THOMAS ALLEN, SUBSTANCE OF PARA FOUR.
COMMENT: PRESIDENT'S PURPOSE IN REQUESTING MEETING
WAS SIMPLY TO EXPRESS GRATITUDE U.S. ASSISTANCE TO
GUINEA-BISSAU THUS FAR. OTHER COMMENTS WERE
MADE IN INFORMAL "EN PASSANT" MANNER. NONETHELESS,
PICTURE OF CABRAL AS MODERATE ELEMENT IN PAIGC IS RE-
ENFORCED BY HIS WILLINGNESS TO COMMENT FAVORABLY ON
U.S. INITIATIVES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA WITHOUT REFERRING TO
PATRIOTIC FRONT OR ARMED STRUGGLE, HIS WILLINGNESS TO
POINT TO A U.S. AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT, AND HIS OPENNESS
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TO CHASE MANHATTAN BANK INVOLVEMENT IN GUINEA-BISSAU.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESIDENT, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, FOOD ASSISTANCE, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 11-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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Secure: OPEN
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TAGS: EAID, PDEV, PU, US, (CABRAL, LUIZ DE ALMEIDA)
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